

3-1923

The Gymnasium Armory

University of Maine

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The
GYMNASIUM
ARMORY

The
University of Maine
War Memorial

The
GYMNASIUM
ARMORY

PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE
MARCH 1923

During the last two or three years there has been an insistent demand from the alumni for the construction of a memorial in honor of the Maine men who gave their lives in the war. This has been the subject of many discussions in the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Council.

During the latter part of November, 1922, this idea took definite form. The Council at a special meeting held on November 19, 1922, acting for the General Alumni Association, decided upon the construction of a Gymnasium-Armory as the memorial and appointed a Memorial Fund committee to proceed with a campaign to collect the necessary funds (estimated at \$500,000) from the alumni and friends of the University.

It is believed that this project will commend itself to every alumnus, that the opportunity to show his love and loyalty to Maine will be welcomed by each one, and that in his desire to honor the men who gave their lives, each alumnus will contribute very liberally to the Fund.

A. W. STEPHENS '99,
President General Alumni Ass'n,
Orono, Maine

A Statement by Dr. C. C. Little

President of the University of Maine

That there is a direct relationship between the physical and mental development of the average college boy or girl is almost too self-evident to be worth a passing comment. Nevertheless in a great majority of our schools great stress is laid upon the mental training of the student while the physical training is almost if not entirely forgotten.

Here at Maine we have in this respect been no different from many other colleges, in that we have required only the Freshmen to participate in the courses of the Department of Physical Education, while the only members of the three other classes who received any form of supervised physical exercise were those who aspired to positions on the athletic teams.

We now propose to correct this condition. We plan to develop our Department of Physical Education so that every boy and girl in college will receive the benefits of properly supervised exercise. We do not believe that calisthenics, gymnasium drills, or the old fashioned "P. T." classes are the means by which the desired result is to be obtained. Rather, we feel that the students should be classified according to their physical condition, as revealed by careful examination, and that those who are deficient in development should be given special and corrective training, while those of sufficient development should be required to participate in more strenuous exercise.



PHOTO BY CHAMPLAIN, N. Y.

We believe the best results are obtained by competitive games, such as baseball, tennis, hockey, football, running, jumping, weight-throwing, basketball, handball, boxing, wrestling, and swimming. Games of this kind do not bore the student. The spirit of competition arouses his enthusiasm, his mind relaxes, his alertness increases, and while playing, his physical development takes place. At the same time he acquires and develops habits of self control, team work, and discipline, and perhaps most important of all, a knowledge of "how to play the game."

With our present gymnasium facilities we are able in an unsatisfactory way to care only for the Freshman class and those few upper classmen who are members of class, intramural, or varsity teams.

Inasmuch as the University had its origin as a Land-Grant college it receives Federal aid and is required to give a certain amount of military training. We believe this training is an essential part of the education of our boys. It gives them knowledge which tends to make them better citizens and more efficient in their chosen life work.

Our present gymnasium, never intended to serve as an armory, is utterly inadequate for housing the equipment and classes of this Department.

This is the first time in the history of the University that the Alumni as a whole have been called upon to make a great sacrifice for their Alma Mater.

We believe that the Memorial Gymnasium-Armory will stand through the years as a symbol of the loyalty to the University of her sons, daughters, and friends, and that they will be proud to have participated in relieving one of the situations that threatens to cripple and is already handicapping the University.

Clarence C. Little
Orono, Maine
March 15, 1923

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

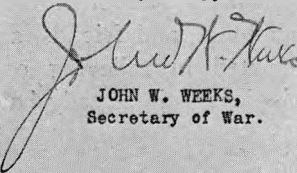
To the Alumni, Alumnae, and Friends of the University of Maine:

My attention has been invited to the fact that it is proposed that a gymnasium-armory be built at the University of Maine. I was very much pleased to hear of this suggestion, not only because it indicates an increased attention to our problem of training young Americans for citizenship, but also because I consider it a very appropriate memorial to the forty-one lives sacrificed by the University of Maine during the World War.

There is no problem of greater importance to our country than that of training the future generations. Their development should be evenly balanced so as to train them mentally, physically, and morally with a view to both the individual and national welfare. In your projected gymnasium-armory you are planning to give your students increased facilities for development in this balanced manner. You are preparing them for health in time of peace and for better fulfillment of patriotic duty in defense of their country.

I wish you the greatest success in this praiseworthy undertaking.

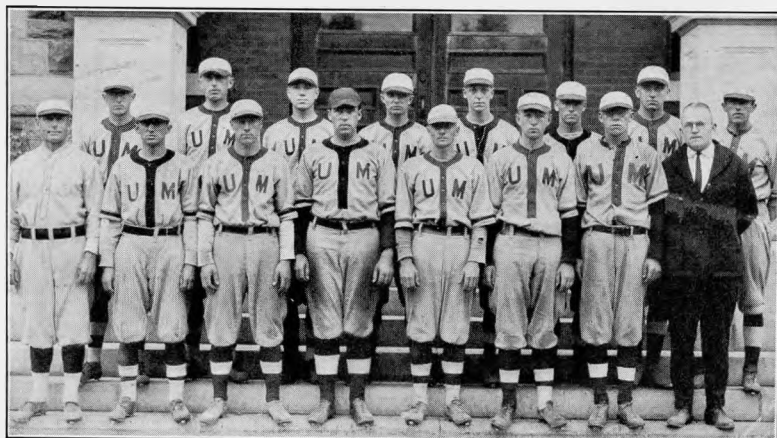
Yours very truly,



JOHN W. WEEKS,
Secretary of War.



The 1915 team that won the National Intercollegiate Cross Country Championship. Maine has held an enviable record in hill and dale running for the last 10 years.



Tied for State Championship last spring,—to compete on an even basis with schools located farther south Maine must have an Indoor Field where the baseball team may practice long before the snow is off the ground.

What Will the New Gymnasium-Armory Be Like?

This is one of the first questions asked by those interested in the welfare of the University.

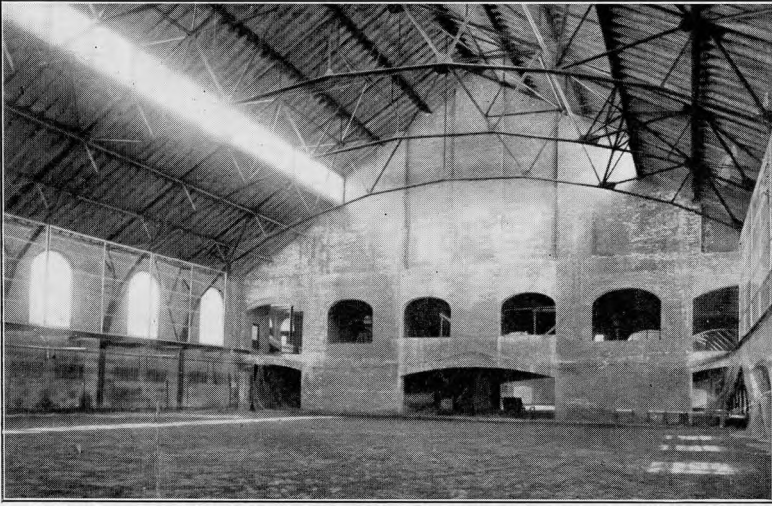
The actual plans for the new building have not yet been drawn. They will not be drawn until a careful study of all the most modern gymnasiums and armories in the country has been made. The new building will contain the best features of these buildings. It will be an imposing structure and a distinct addition architecturally to the campus group.

Tentative plans point to a building large enough to contain a cinder running track of about eight laps to the mile, a 100 yard cinder straight-away for indoor use, and a modern gallery rifle range. The running track would enclose an indoor field about equal in size to a regulation football gridiron or baseball field. Several tennis courts could be laid out. Here there would be room for the entire military regiment to drill.

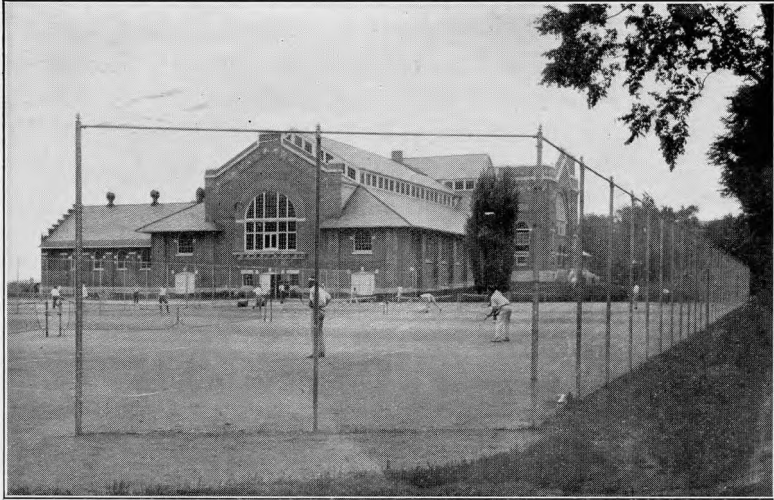
On the gymnasium floor there should be ample room for basket-ball courts, hand-ball courts, squash courts, and rooms for boxing, wrestling, fencing and other sports. There should be offices for the military staff, physical director, the team coaches and managers, and quarters for the Alumni Office. There should be class rooms for the physical education and military departments. If it is at all feasible there will be a swimming pool large enough for intercollegiate competition. Ample accommodations for spectators should be provided on each floor.

There should be accommodations for varsity teams. There should be plenty of lockers for all the students. Our present gymnasium has four shower baths. One thousand students have to make use of them. At the close of a physical training class of fifty can you imagine the shivering line waiting for a turn at those four showers?

The Gymnasium-Armory will mean an increased interest in the University on the part of preparatory school students, for



When the rain is pouring down and Maine's athletes are taking an enforced lay-off, Dartmouth teams are practicing on the dirt floor of a warm, dry and well lighted indoor field.



One reason why Dartmouth's teams have an opportunity to make a good showing.

it must be admitted that athletics and athletic equipment play a large part in judging the worth of a college in the minds of most preparatory school students. The Gymnasium-Armory will mean more interscholastic and intercollegiate contests, and more visitors to the campus.

It will mean that physical education can be enlarged in scope to include every student in the University. Every man and woman will be able to get the physical exercise so necessary to the development of a growing body and mind.

Such a building will mean that the military department will have much needed drill, storage, and recitation space. The teaching staff is loyal and hardworking. The Federal Government has loaned the use of \$55,000 worth of equipment. But efficient instruction and plentiful equipment can not overcome inadequate housing.

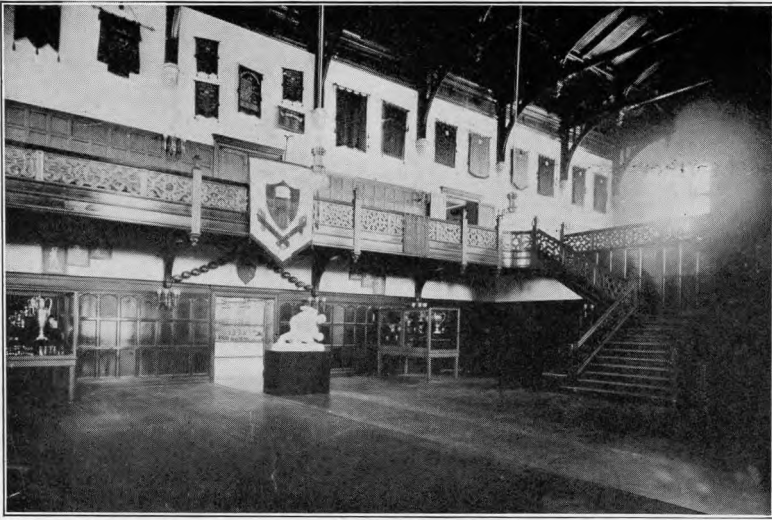
This building will mean better athletic teams to represent the University. In the Spring the baseball, track and tennis teams can start practice on a par with the colleges located farther South, with whom they must compete. In the Fall it will mean continuous practice for the football team regardless of weather conditions.

It will mean more intramural and interclass contests, thus giving the boy and girl who is not of varsity calibre an opportunity for participation in competitive sports.

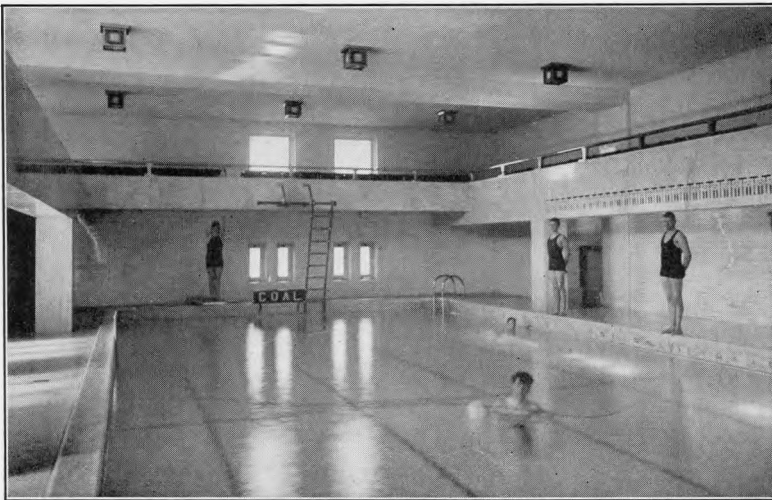
The new Gymnasium-Armory will mean an intensified college spirit. It will give the undergraduates and alumni alike something of which to be proud. It will give a space large enough to have a real student rally and a real Maine Night with plenty of room. The Alumni banquet in June can then be staged without crowding. In rainy weather, Commencement and Class Day exercises can be handled comfortably indoors.

The Location of the Building

The location of the Gymnasium-Armory will be close to the Athletic Field, where it will be most convenient for all purposes. This will mean that more acres of land will be improved and taken into the campus proper.



Trophy Room in Princeton Gymnasium,—Maine's Gymnasium-Armory will have a room suitable for the preservation and display of her trophies.



The swimming pool, Patten Gymnasium, Northwestern University,—Physical Training is play instead of work when the student has facilities such as this building offers.

What Some Other Colleges Are Doing

Several colleges and universities throughout the country, through their alumni, are erecting, or are planning to erect, new gymnasiums, armories, stadiums, or other buildings, as memorials to their war heroes. Among these are Massachusetts Agricultural College, Lafayette, Georgia, Purdue, University of Kansas, and Iowa State.

Connecticut State, with half the student body, boasts an armory that would almost care for Maine's entire program of Military and Physical Training.

Bowdoin, in her Hyde Athletic Building, possesses an asset of which she may be rightfully proud.

Bates is waging a successful campaign to raise \$1,000,000, of which \$400,000 will be used to build a gymnasium.

Many preparatory schools have gymnasiums which far outstrip our present building.

A War Memorial

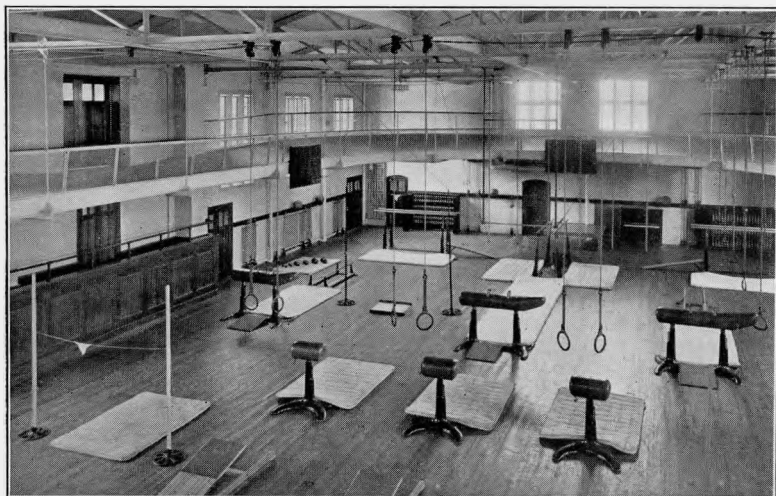
The University of Maine had 1700 men in the service of the United States and the Allies. There are forty-two gold stars on our service flag. These forty-two Maine men made the supreme sacrifice for their country. Surely the alumni and friends of Maine are willing to make a real sacrifice in order that the memory of these brave sons may be fittingly perpetuated. There could be no more suitable memorial than a Gymnasium-Armory, which will be a constant source of inspiration for loyalty to the generations to come.

Of the forty-two, twenty were killed in action, two met accidental deaths overseas and one in a southern training camp; and three died of disease overseas and sixteen of disease in home training camps.

Commissions were held by over 500 of the former students in the service. Two rose to the rank of brigadier general, several were colonels and scores were officers of lesser rank. Statistics as to the number wounded and decorated are in the process of compilation. It is known that the number is large.



Mercersburg Academy Gymnasium, larger than Alumni Hall, yet not too large for a student body of about one fifth the number of students at Maine.



Interior Mercersburg Academy Gymnasium—many a "prep" school of two hundred enrollment has a gymnasium better equipped than Maine now offers for the use of her twelve hundred students.

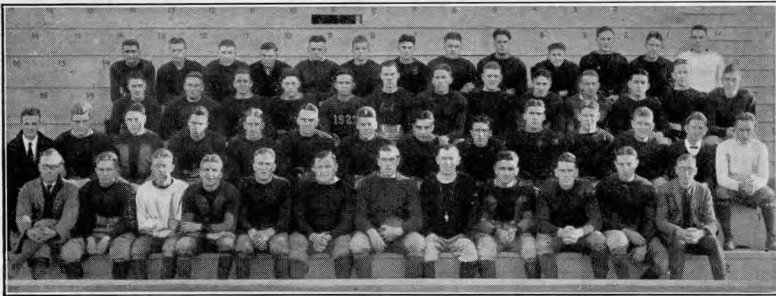
A fitting tablet to preserve their memory as an inspiration to all future generations has been offered by the overseas men on the campus who compose the Charles A. Rice Post, No. 558, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

*Why Ask the Alumni, Alumnae, Former
Students and Friends for
This Memorial?*

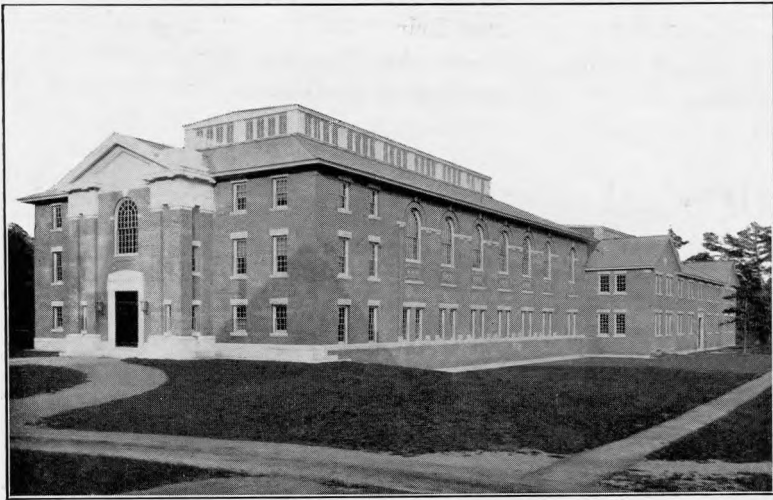
The alumni body of the University is now large enough so that a project of this magnitude can be undertaken without too great a strain on any one individual, if each gives to the limit of his ability.

It is only fitting that this great body of those who have the welfare of the University at heart should show their interest in tangible form. The call has never been made before.

It is the present duty of the State to provide the necessary living quarters, recitation rooms and laboratories for the rapidly growing student body. Such being the case, we cannot expect money for the much-needed Gymnasium-Armory from this source for many years to come. The University must have this building. It is up to us.



State Football Champions last fall,—such a team deserves good training quarters.



Bowdoin has had better teams since her students have had the use of the Hyde Athletic Building.



Indoor Field, Hyde Athletic Building at Bowdoin laid out for winter tennis practice—courts like these will put Maine in the runnings.

The Forty-two Men of the
University of Maine to whom
the New Gymnasium Armory
will be Dedicated



W.C. BARRETT '18



O.E. HUNTON '20



P.B. SHERIDAN '15



CHAS. A. RICE '17

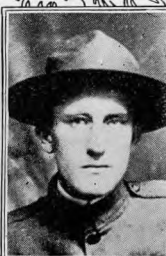
Paul
T
Johnson
1920



RICHARD R. WELLS '18



L.W. GARDINER '10



F.E. PRETTO '15



HERBERT G. COBB '18



J.C. SPOONER '20

The Forty-two Men of the
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T.M. BRITTAIN '18



H.T. ANDREWS '18



A. LAVORGNA '17



T. RODERICK '16

Robert
A
Mackey
1918



D.W. NORTON '18



LUCIEN LIBBY '18



G.R. STOTT '18



GEO E. KIRK '16



F.B. HOLDEN '18

The Forty-two Men of the
University of Maine to whom
the New Gymnasium Armory
will be Dedicated



D.M. GASKILL '19

Walter
&
Jones
1917

Roland
&
Fletcher
1915



ROY I. GODING '20



E.R. ROBBINS '20



S.T. WEBSTER '18



SYDNEY ORNE '07



C.M. CUTLER '16



C.E. BROWN '17



A.P. SCHNEIDER JR '16



P.P. SAWTELLE '11

The Forty-two Men of the
University of Maine to whom
the New Gymnasium Armory
will be Dedicated



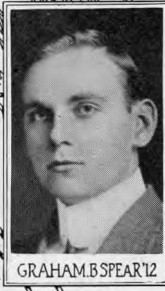
DE CAMPBELL '20



IRA M. BRADBURY '14



JAS H. GRAY '18



GRAHAM B. SPEAR '12



W. S. STEVENSON '21

Fred
A
Pearson
Summer School



ROBERT G. HURD '18



DUNTON HAMLIN '11



ERALD HARMON '17



L. W. HUNT '21



A. K. BOLAN '22

Military Training in colleges has for its ultimate object the making of leaders. If this object is attained the training is of incalculable value.

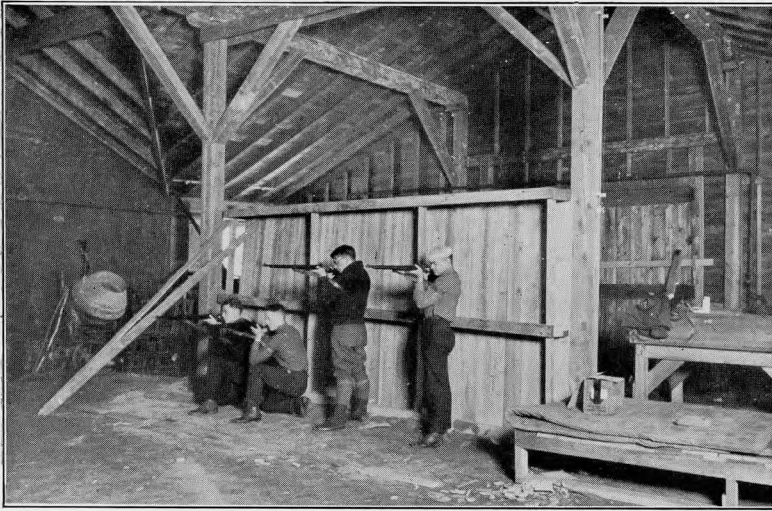
This work broadens the student's reasoning powers and teaches him to meet situations squarely and confidently. It teaches courtesy, respect for constituted authority, and that discipline of self which is essential to success in any line of endeavor. This training stands for all those qualities which make for good citizenship.

The University of Maine lacks proper facilities for carrying on this training in a manner befitting a college course. Military and Physical Training (and the two are closely related in the physical development of the student) can no more be carried on properly without adequate equipment, laboratories, drill halls, and class rooms, than can electrical engineering be taught in the snow drifts of the open campus.

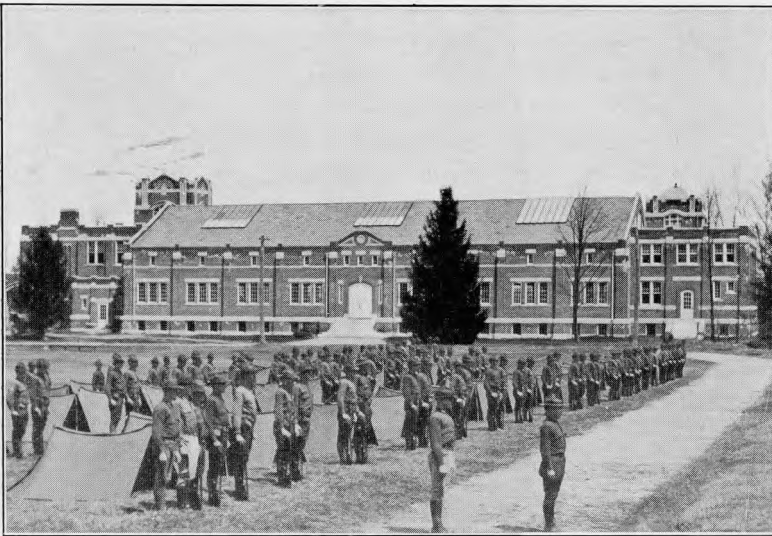
Proper Military and Physical Training is impossible, even with the best teachers, without an adequate building.

L. R. JAMES,

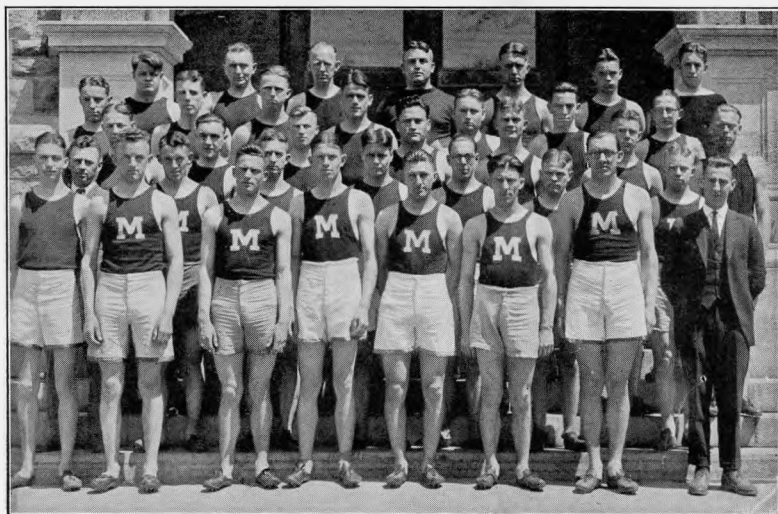
Major, Infantry, and Head of the Department of Military Science and Tactics.



The Rifle Range, too small and none too well lighted, is in the garage where mowing machines and farm tractors are stored. If these boys can win more than half their matches under these conditions what will they do when they have a real gallery range properly equipped?



Connecticut "Aggie," with an enrollment of about six hundred, finds no difficulty in making good use of all the space in her building which is much larger than Maine's Alumni Hall.



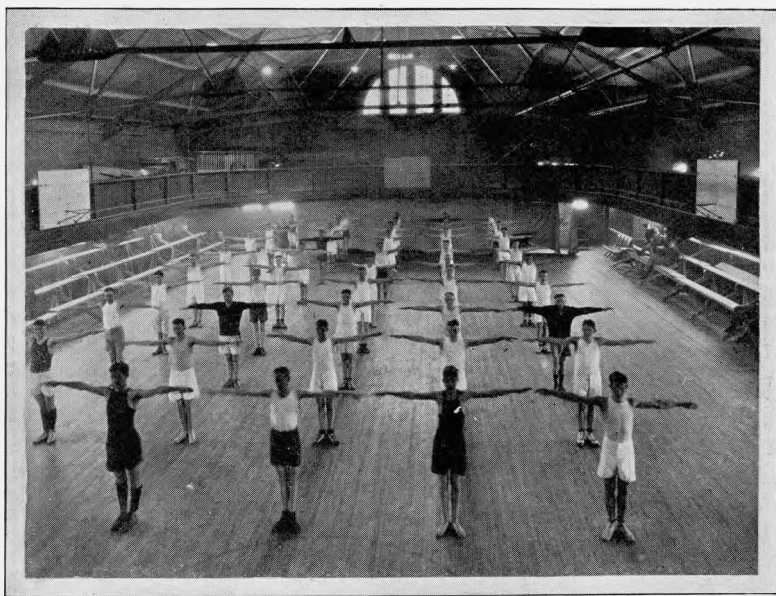
An indoor cinder track will mean that Maine's track and field men can work under favorable conditions for months instead of for only a few weeks prior to the season of competition.



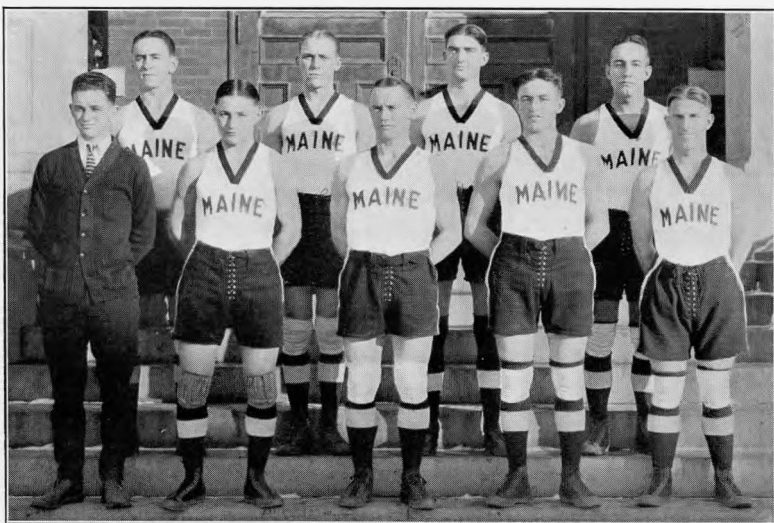
Alumni Hall affords no dressing room for women, consequently after an hour of gymnasium work these women walked through the snow a half mile to a place where they could don their street clothes.

THE success of the University's program of "Athletics for All" is largely dependent on the facilities with which we have to work. Until a Gymnasium-Armory of sufficient size is built, containing a gymnasium floor, drill hall, swimming pool and other modern equipment, including an indoor field where, during inclement weather, football, track, baseball and other activities may be held, the development of our program of Physical Education will be at a standstill.

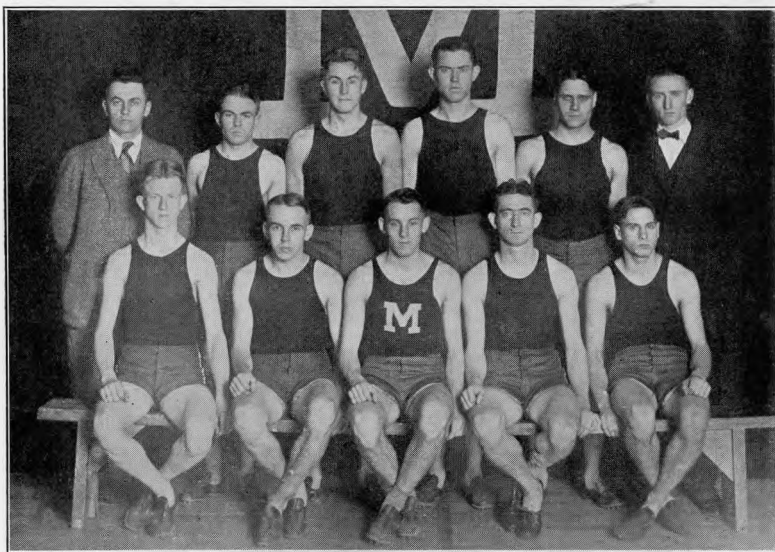
*R. H. BRYANT,
Graduate Manager of Athletics and Acting
Head of the Dept. of Physical Education.*



Because of lack of gymnasium space the University is able to offer Physical Training to only the first-year men. There are 290 freshmen boys taking Physical Training,—the "gym" accommodates at one time a maximum class of 50 persons. After an hour of physical training work these boys wait in line for a turn in one of the four shower baths which the building affords.



This branch of sport depends largely on good gymnasium facilities,— Alumni Hall is so crowded that the Varsity Basket Ball team can not obtain the use of the floor for a proper amount of practice.



This team won the State and New England Cross Country championships last fall and finished sixth in the National Run, placing ahead of some of the "big fellows", such as Harvard, Dartmouth, Princeton, Univ. of Penn. and Penn. State.

***The Words of General Mark L. Hersey,
loyal Maine alumnus***

From the University of Maine 1700 of the graduates, former students and undergraduates responded to our country's call in the World War. What a tower of strength! What a heritage.

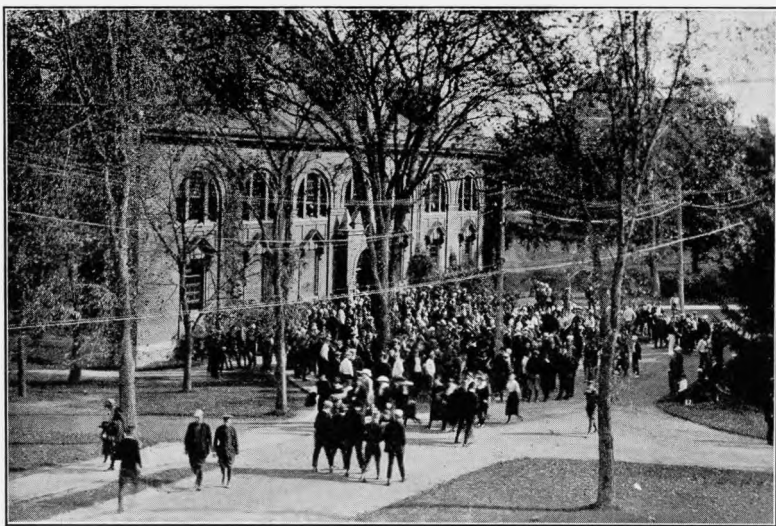
This Memorial is not alone for those who gave their lives in that great world crisis, but far more, it is an inspiration for the living. This Gymnasium-Armory at the University of Maine will develop not only the sound bodies so essential to sound mind, but with a mural tablet setting forth its origin and purpose will be a lesson, daily and constantly, before the eyes of those who enter its portals, and establish in the minds of the youths there trained and developed, high ideals and a love of country that all the coming years will strengthen and intensify.

This is the first great effort of the sons and daughters of the University of Maine in behalf of their Alma Mater. So wonderful in its conception, so pregnant with high purpose, it will stand through the generations to come supreme among all gifts that may follow.

*In pride of heritage—In honor of our dead—
Get together—Go over the top.*

MARK L. HERSEY,

*Brigadier General, U. S. Army, Sometime
2nd Lieut., 9th Infantry, and Professor of
Military Science and Tactics at the U. of M.*



The new Gymnasium-Armory will relieve the congestion in Alumni Hall



All Girls' Athletics will be amply provided for in Alumni Hall

The Call

THE definite need of the Gymnasium-Armory Memorial has been presented to you in this booklet. You have made up your mind to subscribe when the actual call comes. You are going to be generous—of that there can be no doubt. To assist you in determining the amount of your subscription read the suggestions outlined in the March 31 supplement to THE MAINE ALUMNUS. Give these suggestions real serious thought. Then, after April 2, when a loyal field worker approaches you for your subscription we believe that you will be a generous giver.

*The University of Maine
Memorial Fund Committee
Bangor, Maine*

